

Application No. 10/720,597

Remarks

Applicants are amending claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 15 and are canceling a number of claims. Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 5-14 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Friend et al., WO 99/54936A1. This rejection is moot in view of the amendment to the claims.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as set forth in Section 5. This rejection is moot in view of the amendment to the claims.

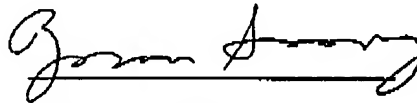
Claim 15 is rejected as being unpatentable over Friend et al., WO 99/54936A1 applied to claim 1, and further in view of Ong et al., US Patent 6,770,904. The undersigned attorney states that the present application and Ong et al., US Patent 6,770,904 were, at the time of the invention of the present application was made, owned by the same assignee Xerox Corporation, or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same assignee Xerox Corporation. Thus, claim 15 contains allowable subject matter. Moreover, the claims as amended are allowable since amended claim 1 incorporates the subject matter of claim 15.

No additional fee is believed to be required; however, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

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In view of the foregoing, the present application as amended is in condition for allowance. In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he is hereby requested to call the undersigned attorney at (585) 423-4292, Rochester, NY.

Respectfully submitted,



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